

The cooperative agreement may cover one or more sites identified and assessed for remediation or other response action. The Secretary shall make a determination regarding such application within 90 days after receiving the application.

“(f) CONTRACTING PROVISIONS.—“In implementing the provisions of any cooperative agreement or the award of any contract pursuant to this section, the Secretary shall—

“(1) apply the provisions of—

“(A) 25 U.S.C. § 450(e)(b);

“(B) 48 C.F.R. § 26.1.; and

“(C) 48 C.F.R. § 226.1; and

“(2) enter into contracts or cooperative agreements with tribal community colleges and tribal vocational educational institutions to provide training to Indian tribes as required under this section.

“(e) DEFINITION.—For the purposes of this section, the term—

“(1) “Indian” means “Indian” as defined in 25 U.S.C. § 450(b), the Indian Self-Determination and Educational Assistance Act.

“(2) “Indian tribe” means “Indian tribe” as defined in 25 U.S.C. § 450(b)(d), the Indian Self-Determination and Educational Assistance Act.

“(3) “Indian organization” means an “organization” as defined in 25 U.S.C. 1452(f), the Indian Financing Act.

“(4) “Indian-owned economic enterprise” means an “economic enterprise” as defined in 25 U.S.C. 1452(e), the Indian Financing Act.

“(5) “Indian lands” means “Indian lands” as defined in 25 U.S.C. § 3902(3) and (4), the Indian Lands Open Dumps Clean-Up Act.

“(f) AUTHORIZATION.—There is hereby authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1998 and 1999, to remain available until expended. For each of fiscal years 2000 through 2006, there is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.”

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Small Business has cancelled the June 24, 1997, hearing entitled “Small Business Reauthorization Act of 1997.”

For further information, please contact Paul Cooksey at 224-5175.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet in SR-301, Russell Senate Office Building, on Wednesday, June 25, 1997, at 9:30 a.m. to receive testimony on “Campaign Finance—Are Political Contributions Voluntary: Union Dues and Corporate Activity.”

For further information concerning this hearing, please contact Stewart Verdery of the Rules Committee staff at 224-2204.

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, will hold hearings on “Medicare At Risk: Emerging Fraud in Medicare Programs.”

This hearing will take place on Wednesday, June 25, 1997, at 9:30 a.m. in

room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact Timothy Shea of the subcommittee staff at 224-3721.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, June 19, 1997, at 9:30 a.m. on pending committee business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 19 for purposes of conducting a Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation hearing which is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be permitted to meet Thursday, June 19, 1997, beginning at 10 a.m. in room SH-216, to conduct a markup on budget reconciliation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AVIATION

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Aviation Subcommittee on the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, June 19, 1997, at 2:30 p.m. on United States/Japan aviation relations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY, EXPORT AND TRADE PROMOTION

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 19, at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

FRIVOLOUS LAWSUIT PREVENTION ACT

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I am pleased to speak about an issue I feel strongly about and have consistently supported during my tenure in the U.S. Senate. Today I rise in defense of Senate bill 400, the Frivolous Lawsuit Prevention Act, of which I am a cosponsor.

The Senate has debated tort reform legislation in the past and this year several bills have been introduced that attempt to remediate our legal system. S. 400 takes a narrow approach and focuses on the particular problem of persons who deliberately abuse America's courts.

I appreciate the efforts of Senator GRASSLEY in introducing this important bill, which is a vital component of legal reform. It aims to rescue our courts from engaging in suits that more resemble talk show fodder than legitimate claims of wrongdoing. Specifically, the bill amends rule 11 of the Federal rules of civil procedure by making sanctions mandatory rather than discretionary whenever federal courts find a violation of that rule has occurred and an attorney has engaged in frivolous conduct.

For example, if a party files a lawsuit purely to badger another party, and the judge finds this to be true, the court can impose a punishment commensurate with the degree of the violation. Prior to 1993, this type of sanctioning had been standard procedure. Unfortunately, however, this rule was severely modified 4 years ago. Congress must now enact S. 400 to once again protect the courts from frivolous lawsuits that clog this Nation's legal system and impede the ability of legitimate claims to be heard.

Our courts must never become playgrounds for egregious claims and wild accusations that seek only to harass an individual. Those who engage in such conduct must face sanctions for their action. In my view, this bill will relieve our courts and restore the dignity and integrity that America's system of justice demands.●

RECOGNITION OF THE RECIPIENTS OF THE GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD, DUPAGE COUNTY GIRL SCOUTS

Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, I would like to salute six outstanding young women who were honored on May 12, 1997, with the Girl Scout Gold Award by the Dupage County Girl Scout Council of Naperville, IL. The Girl Scout Award symbolizes outstanding accomplishments in the area of leadership, community service, career planning, and personal planning. I commend these young women for their dedication to our community.

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., an organization serving over 2.5 million girls, has awarded more than 20,000 Girl Scout Awards to senior Girl Scouts since the inception of the program in 1980. To receive the award, a Girl Scout must earn four interest project patches. The Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge. The Scout must also design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling these requirements is created by the senior Girl Scout and